

Environmental Regulations Guide

Section 13 Worker Safety

13.0 Worker Safety

Arizona is a state plan state, which means that it has its own federally approved occupational safety and health plan. The Arizona Occupational Safety and Health Act (AOSHA), aimed at assuring workers safe and healthful work conditions, applies to all employers in both public and private sector workplaces. Only domestic employees working at the employer's residence are excluded.

The Arizona Industrial Commission administers and enforces AOSHA, through the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH)

13.1 OSHA/ADOSH: Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; 29 CFR 1910; ARS 23-401-433)

Purpose

Created in 1970, the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) has a simple goal: to assure workers a safe and healthful working environment. It establishes standards for safety, which each employer in the public and private sector has to comply with.

Helpful Details

Arizona administers the OHSA requirements under the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH).

ADOSH also administers the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The City of Scottsdale is the first municipality of its size to achieve the STAR designation under VPP. The city self inspects and corrects identified problems with worker safety. The city is subject to an on-site inspection from ADOSH to re-certify VPP STAR status every 3 years.

Agency Contacts:

City of Scottsdale Risk Management Office 7447 E. Indian School Road, Suite 225 Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (480) 312-5022	Arizona Division of Occupational Safety & Health 3221 North 16th Street Phoenix, AZ 85016 (602) 640-2006
U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration 200 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC 20210 (202)219-8148	Industrial Commission of Arizona 800 West Washington Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85006 (602) 542-4515

Actions Required

The City of Scottsdale Risk Management Office conducts comprehensive safety training for all staff. In addition to awareness level hazard communication training, specialized safety training is required for relevant staff on the following topics: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), blood borne pathogens, confined space entry, trenching and shoring, respiratory protection, ergonomics, Tuberculosis exposure control, safe electrical work practices, asbestos exposure, process hazard analysis and environmental compliance.

All city staff take ownership for safety by becoming familiar with the safety and health plan, and emphasizing safety in daily routine work practices.

To maintain its VPP status, the City of Scottsdale will have another on-site inspection from ADOSH in 2002, and every three years thereafter. City staff, supervisors and department heads should continue to conduct routine safety inspection of their departments, schedule safety topics for regular staff meetings and continue to document safety efforts and measures in their departments.

Fees

None

Best Numbers to Call:

Paul McKee: (480) 312-5022 City of Scottsdale Risk Management Office
Arizona Department of Occupational Safety and Health: (602) 640-2006

13.2 Voluntary Protection Program (VPP): Scottsdale VPP Program

The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) was designed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to recognize organizations that have outstanding safety and health programs. OSHA is an arm of the U.S. Department of Labor created to encourage employers and employees to reduce workplace hazards and to implement or improve existing safety and health programs.

The City of Scottsdale participates in the VPP STAR Program. STAR stands for Safety Through Accountability and Recognition and is the highest designation in the VPP. VPP is consistent with the city's core values - personal accountability is the key characteristic of the VPP STAR Program. Taking Ownership for Safety is the slogan of our VPP campaign. The city's participation in the VPP STAR program puts us in an elite group. Scottsdale is one of only four Arizona employers to achieve STAR status and is the first Arizona municipality to receive this honor. We have joined a group of 250 organizations throughout the nation who participate in the VPP STAR program. Many "Fortune 500" companies, including Motorola, AT & T, Georgia Pacific and Allied Signal, participate in the program.

The city agrees to provide written safety programs that meet, and in many cases, exceed OSHA requirement. Employees agree to participate in an effective program that meets established criteria to ensure a safe and healthy workplace. In October 1996 and again in 1999, ADOSH performed a detailed inspection of our municipal campuses to verify that Scottsdale continues to meet all criteria for participation in the VPP Star Program. ADOSH will periodically reassess our facilities and safety programs to ensure that we are star quality.

The STAR (Safety Through Accountability and Recognition) program was started by OSHA to recognize and encourage excellence in safety and health programs. One of the key characteristics of STAR

recognition is an organizational environment in which safety is everyone's responsibility. VPP employee briefing sessions will be provided to all new employees at orientation and to existing employees through briefing sessions and internal communications.

For additional information regarding the city's safety programs, contact Paul McKee in Risk Management at 312-5022. Information regarding your department and division safety plans can be obtained from your supervisor.

13.3 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): 42 USC chapter 126; AAC Title 10 chapter 3, Article 4

The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, programs and services provided by state and local governments, goods and services provided by private companies, and in commercial facilities.

The ADA was signed into law on July 26, 1990. It contains requirements for new construction, for alterations or renovations to buildings and facilities, and for improving access to existing facilities of private companies providing existing goods or services to the public. It also requires that State and local governments provide access to programs offered to the public. The ADA also covers effective communication with people with disabilities, an eligibility criterion that may restrict or prevent access, and requires reasonable modifications of policies and practices that may be discriminatory.

The ADA gives the Department of Justice (DOJ) authority to issue regulations for title II and III of the ADA and to provide technical assistance and enforcement. The Department also has authority to certify that a State or local accessibility code is equivalent to the ADA's requirements for new construction and alterations. The Department enforces the ADA requirements in three areas --

Title I: Employment practices by units of state and local government,

Title II: Programs, services and activities of state and local government, and

Title III: Public accommodations and commercial facilities (private businesses and non-profit service providers)

13.4 Radiation:

Arizona's radiation standards are designated to protect workers & citizens against exposure to ionizing and all others forms of radiation from all possible sources. Issues related to naturally occurring radon gas are also handled by the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency.

Field measurement devices of various types use low-level radioactive sources. The Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency issues permit for these sources/instruments. Requirements for such permits include instrument maintenance; proper storage, annual testing & annual permit renewals.

Actions Required

REMINDERS: *This Guide focuses on permits as the starting point for regulatory compliance with each program. If your department's facilities and/or activities require a permit under these programs, you may also need to comply with related requirements to:*

- 1) pay fees;*
- 2) write and submit plans and applications;*
- 3) file reports;*
- 4) make notifications;*
- 5) conduct testing and monitoring;*
- 6) obtain facility and individual certifications and licenses;*
- 7) train staff; and various other requirements.*

Also, remember that multiple permits are often required under each program and that most permits must be renewed annually or periodically.

Agency Contact

Radiation Regulatory Agency
4814 S. 40th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85040
(602) 255-4845